

State Planning and Research Program Quarterly Report

PROJECT TITLE: *Entry-Level Driver Training (CDL) for Maintenance Equipment Operators*

OBJECTIVES: The project has the following two objectives: 1) develop entry-level commercial driver license training materials and resources that complies with federal regulations, and 2) develop and document a process for member agencies to join the Training Provider Registry.

PERIOD COVERED: April 1, 2021 to June 30, 2021

PARTICIPATING AGENCIES: Minnesota Department of Transportation and the Clear Roads Technical Advisory Committee

PROJECT MANAGER:

Hafiz Munir / Tom Peters

SP&R PROJECT NO:

MnDOT Contract No.

1044526

PROJECT IS:

☐ Planning

☒ Research & Development

LEAD AGENCY: MnDOT

Federal Project Number:

TPF-5(353)

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR:

Matt Camden, Virginia Tech

ANNUAL BUDGET: \$199,986 (total project budget)

PROJECT EXPENDITURES TO DATE: \$122,664.55

WORK COMPLETED:

- **Task 5: Fact Sheet and Webinar on Compliance Process.** VTTI conducted a webinar for Clear Roads member states to briefly discuss the training materials being developed, key considerations, steps, and timeline associated with the ELDT regulation. This webinar was conducted on April 2, 2021. Additionally, VTTI submitted the Final Fact Sheet based on feedback from the project subcommittee on April 27, 2021.
- **Task 6: Prepare Curriculum Outlines and Develop Sample Curriculum Units.** In Task 6, VTTI developed the training curriculum outlines to meet the ELDT requirements outlined in 81 FR 88732, 84 FR 8029, and 49 CFR Part 380. Each training curriculum outline followed the unit structure provided in the ELDT rule and 49 CFR 380. While each curriculum outline followed the unit structure outlined in the final rule, the VTTI team provided additional details about training content beyond the unit descriptions listed in 49 CFR 380. Additionally, VTTI developed draft training materials for two curriculum units, the Visual Search theory unit and the Visual Search BTW unit. The draft Task 6 deliverables were submitted on April 30, 2021 and the final revised Outlines and Visual Search units were submitted on May 31, 2021.
- **Task 7: Develop Remaining Student Training Materials.** The VTTI team began developing the training materials for the remaining curriculum units. These training materials follow the format and curriculum outlines approved by the Clear Roads subcommittee in Task 6. The materials developed in Task 7 will include both theory and BTW trainings. All draft units will be submitted for review before July 31, 2021.

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES EXPECTED TO BE PERFORMED NEXT QUARTER:

- **Task 7: Develop Remaining Student Training Materials.** VTTI will continue to create the training materials for the remaining 28 curriculum units. All draft units will be submitted for review before June 31, 2021, and the Final Modules will be submitted by August 31, 2021.
- **Task 8: Develop Train-the-Trainer Materials.** the VTTI team will develop train-the-trainer materials that Clear Roads agencies can use to train instructors on how to implement the training materials developed in this project. Specifically, the train-the-trainer materials will cover instructional strategies to implement both the theory and BTW portions of the EDLT curriculum. Additionally, the train-the-trainer materials will include a section describing differences between the new ELDT requirements and previous approaches to CDL training. The draft Task 8 materials will be submitted for review by August 31, 2021.
- **Task 9: Final Report and Briefing.** The team will prepare a draft final report detailing the ELDT regulation, literature view, survey and interview methods, results, training modules, and train-the-trainer materials. The report will include the Task 3 workflow documenting the process for state DOTs to follow to ensure that all their training providers are added to the TPR and that they remain compliant with the ELDT requirements. The Task 5 fact sheet will be included as an appendix to the final report. The Task 9 report will be submitted by September 30, 2021.

STATUS AND COMPLETION DATE:

This project is ongoing and is scheduled to end on September 30, 2021.